

September 19, 2011

MEC'D-BLM-NSO 9:00 SEP 2 6 2011 AM

Penny Woods BLM Project Manager PO Box 12000 Reno, NV 89520

Dear Ms. Woods:

On behalf of the Culinary Academy of Las Vegas, I am writing in support of the Bureau of Land Management's proposed action as the preferred alternative for the Southern Nevada Water Authority's Groundwater Development Project.

The Culinary Academy of Las Vegas is a nationally and internationally recognized labor-management partnership between the Culinary Union Local #226, Bartenders Local #165, and major resort/gaming properties on the famed Las Vegas Strip. The partnership has created the largest provider of employment and vocational training for entry-level and incumbent workers for the hospitality industry in Las Vegas.

Nevada benefits from a strong and stable workforce. Our members are integral to the gaming and tourism industry throughout the state, accounting for a large section of our state's employment. We depend on a strong economy to continue to employ our members.

The Southern Nevada Water Authority's applications in Eastern Nevada will continue to protect the public interest of our entire state and support our working families. We urge the BLM to grant the rights-of-way the Southern Nevada Water Authority has applied for as part of their plan of development.

Sincerely,

Linda Mattoon

Chief Financial Officer

Culinary Academy of Las Vegas